

## IN MEMORIAM

The Club records with regret the death of the following members:

Bruce M. Cockie (O 1959)	Frank Connon (OL 1956)
A. Leslie Hay (OH 1927)	Mary Jessamine (OL 1962)
William McBey (A 1973)	Kathleen Murdo (A 1992)
Gerard (Geoff) O'Neill (O 1996)	Lyn Potter (A 1998)
Ann F.W. Sharp (OL 1947)	William Squair (O 1974)
Ian Strachan (O 1956)	Teresa Wallace (OL 1961)

Many of the above were members for a long time and had served on the committee. Some current Club members will have affectionate memories of them.

### ANDREW LESLIE HAY

Nine days after his ninety-fourth birthday, Leslie Hay, for seventy-two years a member of our Club, died peacefully at home on the afternoon of 13<sup>th</sup> August 1999. Twice he had served as a Committee Member (1928-31 and 1949-52), and twice as a Vice President (1934-38 and 1952-55). He was our President from 1955-58, and Honorary President from 1980-84, and an Honorary Member.

Born at Peterhead in 1905, the younger son of a coal merchant, he was educated at Peterhead Academy and the University of Aberdeen, where he graduated MA in 1925, and LLB (with distinction) in 1927 (the year he joined the Cairngorm Club). While practising as an advocate in Aberdeen, where for many years he was the senior partner of Cooper and Hay, he maintained his links with the University as part-time lecturer in evidence, pleading and procedure from 1945-64, and in taxation law from 1961-77.

Leslie married a hill-walker. Descending one day the hills to the south of Glen Affric, Leslie and a fellow member, who were staying at Alltbeithe, met on the track to Alltbeithe the two young lady members of the Grampian Club, who had just traversed Carn Eige and Mam Sodhail from the shores of Loch Mullardoch. At some personal inconvenience Leslie and his friend arranged for the two also to stay at Alltbeithe. One of the two was Williamina Yeaman. Three years later Mina and Leslie were married in Dundee on 12<sup>th</sup> September 1933.

Mina introduced Leslie to the Alps, where she had spent many family holidays, and, among other ascents, Leslie, at the age of sixty, climbed the Matterhorn with a guide by the Hörnli route. After that Leslie made many treks in the Himalaya. On his first trek to Everest he was badly affected by dysentery. But ever afterwards he proved that by careful attention to diet one could remain completely fit, and his second trek to Everest, at the age of seventy, was a great success; it included the ascent of Yum Cho (16,650 feet) and Kalar Pattar (18,192 feet). But that was not the end of his Himalayan treks. He subsequently crossed the difficult high snow pass from Rolwaling to Khumbu, the Tesi Lapcha (18,865 feet), so well described by Tom Weir in his book *East of Katmandu*.

Leslie made a point of walking every day, usually averaging fifty miles a week, and a walk from the Linn of Dee to Blair Atholl was likely to include all the tops of Beinn a' Ghlo. In the words of Alexander Pope it could truly be said of him:

*"By nature honest, by experience wise,  
Healthy by temp'rance, and by exercise."*

**H. Brodie M. Lewis**

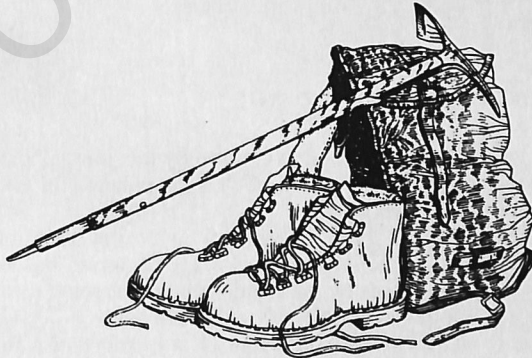
## IAN STRACHAN

Ian Strachan died in March 1999 after a long illness during which he remained his cheerful gentle self and maintained as best he could his varied interests, welcoming many friends to his beautiful home in Aboyne. Ian was Head of Art at Aboyne Academy and his handsome line drawings featured in the Club Journals from 1983 right up to the latest issue in 1999. His design for the cover of the 100<sup>th</sup> issue is especially memorable. His poems and photographs also appeared regularly in the Journal. Ian was an outstanding photographer - his climbing companions required a degree of patience as he went to work in all conditions! - and I recall the pleasure he gave with his several slide shows to the Club. In retirement he found time to write a regular feature about his beloved Scottish mountains in the Leopard magazine.

Several Club members were in the party led by his wife Joanna and his son Alexander when Ian's ashes were scattered on Craig Leek above Invercauld on a brilliant spring day, which brought to mind the closing words of his poem of the same name inspired by that beautiful spot:

*"Neath waving birch, the nimble hinds move as shadows  
On emerald slopes, where primrose shows its face  
In velvet gold."*

**Eric Johnston**



*Ian Strachan*